

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing apparatus comprising:
  - a reading means for reading an image in an original;
  - 5 a character recognizing means for recognizing a character in the image read by said reading means;
  - a storing means for storing a character font;
  - a readout means for reading the character font from said storing means in response to a result of
  - 10 recognition obtained by said character recognizing means;
  - a detecting means for detecting information concerning the character in the image read by said reading means; and
  - 15 a generating means for generating a reproduced image based on the character font read by said readout means and the information concerning the character detected by said detecting means.
- 20 2. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a character font used for a reproduced image is determined to have a character style which is closest to the character in the original.
- 25 3. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a character used for a reproduced image has at least two different sizes with respect to

the same character size on the original.

4. An image processing apparatus according to  
Claim 1, wherein a character size used for a reproduced  
5 image is determined as a maximum size by which all  
characters in the original can be reproduced as  
reproduced images.

5. An image processing apparatus according to  
10 Claim 1, wherein said generating means reproduces a  
character having a size according to information  
detected by said detecting means and a set copy  
magnification.

15 6. An image processing apparatus according to  
Claim 5, wherein said generating means reproduces a  
character with a character gap according to the set  
copy magnification.

20 7. An image processing apparatus according to  
Claim 6, wherein said generating means reproduces  
characters by combining a plurality of kinds of  
character gaps when a number of pixels of a character  
gap calculated in accordance with the set copy  
25 magnification is not an integer.

8. An image processing method comprising the

steps of:

detecting information concerning a character in an image in an original;

recognizing a character in the image;

5       reading a character font from a storing means in response to a result of character recognition; and

generating a reproduced image based on the read character font and the information concerning the character.

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9. A recording medium readable by a computer characterized by storing a program therein, said program using the computer to execute the processing comprising the steps of:

15       detecting information concerning a character in an image in an original;

recognizing a character in the image;

reading a character font from a storing means in response to a result of character recognition; and

20       generating a reproduced image based on the read character font and the information concerning the character.

10. An image processing apparatus comprising:

25       a reading means for reading an image in an original;

a recognizing means for recognizing a character in

the image read by said reading means at a first resolution; and

a generating means for substituting a font having a second resolution lower than said first resolution  
5 for the character recognized by said recognizing means.

11. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein a size of said font generated by said generating means is substantially equal to a size of  
10 the character in the image in said original.

12. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said first resolution for an image area other than a character recognized by said  
15 recognizing means is converted into said second resolution.

13. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 10 further comprising an outputting means for  
20 outputting a reproduced image generated by said generating means to an external apparatus.

14. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said generating means selects a  
25 different font in accordance with a value of said second resolution.

15. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein a font replaced by said generating means includes a rough character font.

5           16. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said generating means selects a different font in accordance with a size of the character in the image recognized by said recognizing means.

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17. An image processing apparatus comprising:  
a reading means for reading an image in an original;

15           a recognizing means for recognizing a character in the image read by said reading means; and

a generating means for substituting a font subjected to an ornament process for the character recognized by said recognizing means to generate a reproduced image.

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18. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 17 further comprising an instructing means for instructing substitution of said ornament-processed font.

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19. An image processing means according to Claim 17, wherein said ornament process is an italic process.

20. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 19 further comprising a setting means for setting an italic angle for said italic process.

5           21. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein said ornament process is any of a meshing process, a negative/positive reversal process, an outline process and a shadowing process.

10           22. An image processing method comprising the steps of:  
recognizing a character in an image in an original at a first resolution; and  
substituting a font having a second resolution  
15 lower than said first resolution for the recognized character to generate a reproduced image.

23. An image processing method comprising the steps of:  
20 recognizing a character in an image in an original; and  
substituting a font subjected to an ornament process for the recognized character to generate a reproduced image.

25           24. A recording medium readable by a computer characterized by storing a program therein, said

program using the computer to execute the processing comprising the steps of:

recognizing a character in an image in an original at a first resolution; and

5 substituting a font having a second resolution lower than said first resolution for the recognized character to generate a reproduced image.

25. A recording medium readable by a computer  
10 characterized by storing a program therein, said program using the computer to execute the processing comprising the steps of:

recognizing a character in an image in an original at a first resolution; and

15 substituting a font subjected to an ornament process for the recognized character to generate a reproduced image.